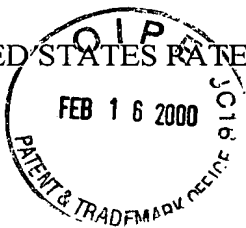


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re application of:

Domenica A. Simms

Appl. No. 09/058,350

Filed: April 10, 1998

For: **RNA Isolation Reagent and
Methods**

Art Unit: 1623

Examiner: Owens, H.

Atty. Docket: 0942.3840001/RWE/KKV

Petition For Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

It is hereby requested that the period for replying to the outstanding Office Action be extended Three (3) months from November 16, 1999, to February 16, 2000, by the filing of this Petition and fee payment.

The petition fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)) is believed to be \$870.00 for a 3 month extension for a large entity. However, if extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those provided herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Kristin K. Vidovich

Kristin K. Vidovich
Attorney for Applicant
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Date: Feb. 16, 2000

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